

PATENT

Application Serial No.: 10/642,978  
Attorney Docket No.: 97-558-C1AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:  
determining a monetary value using a point of sale terminal;  
allocating a portion of a ticket, the portion being based on the  
monetary value,  
in which the allocated portion is less than the whole of the ticket;  
outputting a ticket identifier that identifies the ticket and a portion  
identifier that identifies the allocated portion of the ticket; and  
storing the ticket identifier and the portion identifier.
2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, in which the step of  
determining a monetary value comprises:  
determining a monetary value based on an amount of change due for a  
purchase.
3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
selecting the ticket from a plurality of tickets.
4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 3, in which the step of selecting  
the ticket from a plurality of tickets comprises:  
selecting a ticket having an unallocated portion at least as great as the  
monetary value.

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5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 3, in which the step of selecting the ticket from a plurality of tickets comprises:

determining a set of tickets that each have an unallocated portion at least as great as the monetary value; and

selecting a ticket from the set of tickets which has a minimal unallocated portion.